



## GOVERNOR'S Energy Office

### **Renewable Energy Market Assessment**

The Governor's Energy Office is preparing a ten-year renewable energy market assessment, which will provide important information to inform how the state meets its clean energy requirements.

Last year, Governor Mills signed [LD 1494](#), "An Act to Reform Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard", which requires 80% of our electricity from renewable resources by 2030 and sets a goal of 100% by 2050. Included in this law is a requirement for a renewable energy goals market assessment.

The Governor's Energy Office recently released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to conduct the study. The study will:

1. Identify the availability of commercially viable renewable energy technologies, including emerging technologies, in the State and region between 2020 and 2030.
2. Identify the capacity of renewable energy technologies and possible scenarios to reach the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirements.
3. Review the time frames for permitting, financing and construction for commercially viable renewable technologies in the State and region.
4. Review existing laws and regulations and whether they are sufficient to meet RPS.
5. Analyze the policy and regulatory options and structures that may influence the speed, predictability and cost to ratepayers associated with the development of renewable energy technologies in this State and the amount of renewable energy generated.
6. Analyze the estimated electricity costs and benefits for ratepayers of the potential policy options.
7. Review policies and regulations in other states and the region, including an analysis of the dynamics between and among the various states, provinces and this State, and the importance and role of generating 80% of electricity from renewable capacity resources in achieving the greenhouse gas reduction goals.
8. Assess benefits and costs of incentives provided to generators fueled by municipal solid waste, landfill gas facilities and anaerobic digestion and other waste-to-energy technologies under the State's renewable portfolio requirements. The examination must also consider and make recommendations for further alignment between renewable energy and solid waste policy initiatives. This assessment will include coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection.

The study will help inform whether additional policies should be considered to adequately meet the statutory requirement. While the study is separate from with the Maine Climate Council's ongoing work, the work will be informed by the Council's concurrent efforts.



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The study will include a public comment period, the date(s) for which will be released once the study contract is finalized later in summer 2020. The GEO anticipates finalizing the study in January 2021, as required by statute.

For a copy of the RFP, please search for “Renewable Energy Goals Market Assessment” on [this page](#).

If you are interested in participating in future public meetings related to the study or if you have questions, please email [celina.cunningham@maine.gov](mailto:celina.cunningham@maine.gov).